

RESTORATION ACTIVITIES

Tampa Bay Oil Spill

Dune Restoration Projects: These projects were undertaken to compensate for the physical loss of beach sand as a result of the spill and response activities.

Project: Dune restoration

Location: Treasure Island

Funding: \$53,550 (Tampa Bay Oil Spill settlement)

Year of Completion: Scheduled to be undertaken in 2005

The Treasure Island dune vegetation project will be implemented on city-owned property approximately 150 yards south of the Sunset Vista Trailhead Park. Approximately one acre of dunes will be shaped with heavy machinery and planted with native dune vegetation (sea oats). Some sand will also be added to the site initially for use in dune shaping. Once the sea oats become established, they will promote natural dune development and accumulate additional sand over time. The dunes will also provide erosion protection. This project will be located in an area that is currently experiencing heavy pedestrian traffic and recreational use with no present chance of experiencing natural sand accretion. To deter future pedestrian traffic over the dunes, this project also incorporates a four-foot wide dune walkover.

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Project: Dune restoration

Location: Fort DeSoto Park

Funding: \$144,000

Year of Completion: Scheduled for construction in 2005.

Fort DeSoto Park is an 1,136-acre coastal park located at the extreme southern end of Pinellas County, near St. Petersburg, Florida. High pedestrian traffic in the park has resulted in degraded dune habitats. Pinellas County will implement this project to restore nearly two acres of dune habitat by focusing foot traffic over two new dune walkovers designed to allow natural sand accretion below and around the structures. With decreased human impact on the dunes, dune vegetation will be able to stabilize the dunes and allow for dune growth.

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